

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 170

To require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish energy conservation standards for public housing projects and to carry out a program to demonstrate the effectiveness of energy conservation measures in public housing projects.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 1995

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish energy conservation standards for public housing projects and to carry out a program to demonstrate the effectiveness of energy conservation measures in public housing projects.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Public Housing Energy
5 Conservation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENERGY CONSERVATION PERFORMANCE STAND-**
2 **ARDS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Any public housing project, for
4 which development or rehabilitation is assisted under the
5 United States Housing Act of 1937 and commences after
6 the 1-year period following the date of the enactment of
7 this Act, shall be developed or rehabilitated in accordance
8 with life-cycle cost-effective energy conservation perform-
9 ance standards that are established by the Secretary of
10 Housing and Urban Development and are designed to en-
11 sure (through the use of energy conservation measures
12 and otherwise) the lowest total construction, rehabilita-
13 tion, and operating costs over the estimated life of the
14 project.

15 (b) CONSTRUCTION COST LIMITS.—The Secretary
16 shall revise the cost limits applicable to the development
17 or rehabilitation of public housing projects assisted under
18 the United States Housing Act of 1937 for purposes of
19 taking into consideration the life-cycle costs of the struc-
20 ture and major energy consuming heating and cooling sys-
21 tems.

22 (c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall, not later
23 than the expiration of the 1-year period following the date
24 of the enactment of this Act, issue regulations establishing
25 the standards referred to in subsection (a) and revising
26 the cost limits referred to in subsection (b).

1 **SEC. 3. PUBLIC HOUSING ENERGY CONSERVATION DEM-**
2 **ONSTRATION.**

3 (a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section to
4 demonstrate the extent to which the use of energy con-
5 servation measures in public housing projects will reduce
6 the operating costs of the projects and the utility pay-
7 ments made by the tenants of the projects.

8 (b) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall, to the extent
9 approved in appropriation Acts, provide financial assist-
10 ance to the Chicago Housing Authority in the State of
11 Illinois for the purpose of permitting the Authority—

12 (1) to implement energy conservation measures
13 in public housing projects operated by the Authority
14 and assisted under the United States Housing Act
15 of 1937; and

16 (2) to use the services of expert consultants in
17 designing and installing such energy conservation
18 measures.

19 (c) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit
20 annually to the Congress a comprehensive report setting
21 forth the activities carried out under this section. The re-
22 port shall include any recommendations of the Secretary
23 for legislation or other actions to encouraging the use of
24 energy conservation measures in public housing projects.

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 such sums as may be necessary.

4 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

5 For purposes of this Act:

6 (1) The term “energy conservation measure”
7 means—

8 (A) caulking and weatherstripping of doors
9 and windows;

10 (B) furnace efficiency modifications, in-
11 cluding—

12 (i) replacement burners, furnaces, or
13 boilers (or any combination) that, as deter-
14 mined by the Secretary, substantially in-
15 crease the energy efficiency of the heating
16 system;

17 (ii) devices for modifying flue open-
18 ings that will increase the energy efficiency
19 of the heating system; and

20 (iii) electrical or mechanical furnace
21 ignition systems that replace standing gas
22 pilot lights;

23 (C) clock thermostats;

24 (D) ceiling, attic, wall, and floor insulation;

25 (E) water heater insulation;

1 (F) storm windows and doors, multiglazed
2 windows and doors, heat-absorbing or heat-re-
3 flective glazed window and door materials;

4 (G) devices associated with load manage-
5 ment techniques;

6 (H) devices to utilize solar energy or wind-
7 power for any energy conservation purpose,
8 including heating of water, space heating, or
9 cooling;

10 (I) replacement of incandescent lighting
11 with higher efficiency lighting;

12 (J) district heating;

13 (K) cogeneration; and

14 (L) such other measures as the Secretary
15 may identify for purposes of this section.

16 (2) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
17 of Housing and Urban Development.

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